

Success Story:

Michael Spinler



True success is earned not given and Michael Spinler is an example of the great success that can be achieved with hard work and determination.

In April 2012, Michael reached out to St. John's Community Services to assist in finding gainful employment. On June 15, 2012, Peggy Robinson, Save-A-Lot Store Manager, hired Michael to be a stocker for the grocery store located in Martin, Tennessee. Michael began working an average of fifteen to twenty-five hours a week at the store and began making new friends. A month into his job, Michael encountered personal circumstances that limited his hours and placed him in jeopardy of losing his position at the store. St. John's Community Services diligently worked with Michael and Peggy to overcome the obstacles he was facing on the job, and a year later we are able to share his success story.

Michael worked hard to prove himself and to gain the trust of Peggy over the next several months. As he did, Michael saw his hours increase and he was given more responsibility around the store. In April 2013, Michael received a promotion from Stocker to Produce Manager which proved to be beneficial not only for Michael but to Save-A-Lot as well. He viewed his new position as not only a job, but rather as an opportunity to develop a career. Michael took the produce department to new heights by increasing the overall sales and profits of the store by three percent. Michael takes pride in placing all the orders for the produce department and ensuring it always meets the highest quality of standards for his customers.

Michael now works an average of forty-five hours a week and has the opportunity to participate in Save-A-Lot's benefits package which includes a profit sharing program for employees. Peggy stated, "I don't know what I would do without him. Michael helps in every department of the store. He calls ahead of time to offer assistance on jobs at hand or to share thoughts on merchandizing to bring forth the very best for the store." Peggy sees Michael's potential and has begun preparing him for the next move within the company. Assistant Store Manager is on the horizon and is something Michael is working very hard to achieve.

Ongoing supports are in place from St. John's Community Services and Peggy to ensure he continues to advance within the company. Peggy and Michael have formed a special bond over the past year.

Peggy is a natural support for Michael both on and off the job. She provides Michael with transportation on the days they work together and have even tagged the first Sunday of each month as DQ night. Michael expressed, "I am glad I was given a second chance through St. John's Community Services to work and prove myself, and I am really thankful for Peggy for believing in me. I now have dreams and goals set for my future. One day, I may even become a Store Manager.